

ADULT SMOKING PREVALENCE

California Department of Health Services
Tobacco Control Section
<http://www.dhs.ca.gov/tobacco>

Since the passage of Proposition 99 in 1988, the adult smoking prevalence in California has declined significantly from 22.7% in 1988 to 14.0% in 2005, as measured by the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) and California Adult Tobacco Survey (CATS).

In viewing the adult smoking trend, it is important to note that the revised current smoker definition developed by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) was used beginning in 1996. This resulted in the inclusion of more "occasional smokers" and thus raised prevalence estimates by one to two percentage points in 1996 and subsequent years.

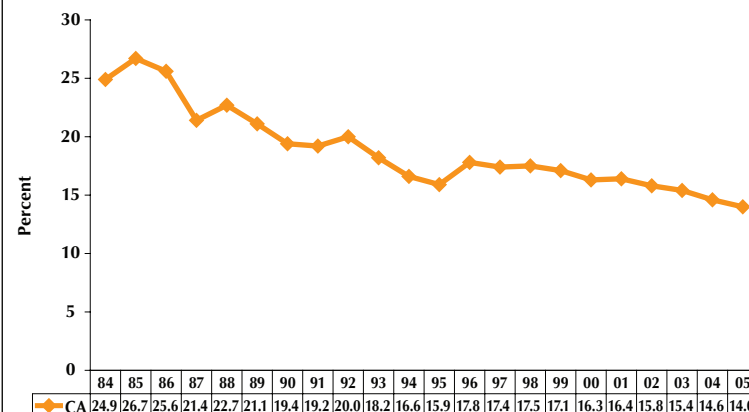
Adult Prevalence

- The California adult smoking prevalence was 14.0% in 2005.
- Adult smoking prevalence has significantly declined from 2001.
- Since the passage of Proposition 99 in 1988, the adult smoking prevalence decreased by approximately 38% from 22.7% to 14.0%.
- Based on the 2005 population, there are approximately 3.8 million current adult smokers in California.

Adult Prevalence by Age

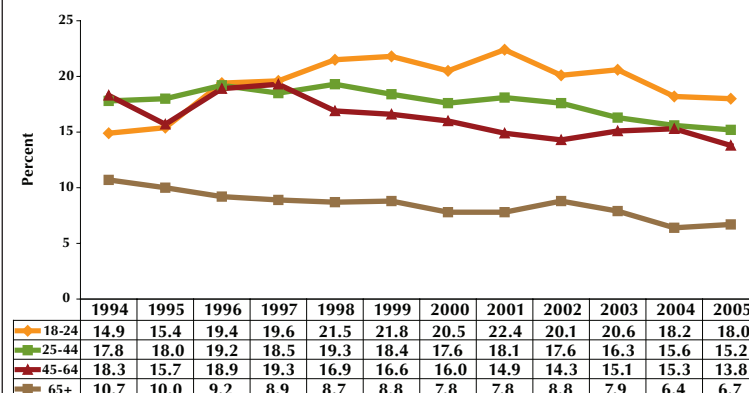
- In 2005, the 18-24 age group has the highest smoking prevalence at 18.0% among the four age groups.
- Between 1996 and 2005, smoking prevalence has declined for people over the age of 25 and appears to be in a declining trend since 2003 for the 18-24 age group.
- In the last 11 years, the smoking prevalence for the 45-64 age group declined from the highest in 1994 (18.3%) to the second lowest in 2005 (13.8%).
- The 65+ age group has had the lowest smoking prevalence throughout the 11-year period from 1994 to 2005. The rate was 10.7% in 1994 and has dropped to 6.7% in 2005.

California Adult Smoking Prevalence, 1984-2005



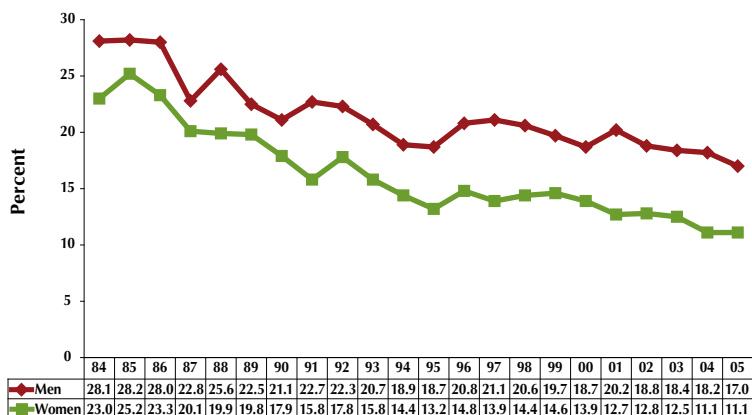
Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) 1984-1992, BRFSS and California Adult Tobacco Survey (CATS) data is combined for 1993-2005. The data is weighted to the 2000 California population. Note definitional change of smoker in 1996 to include more occasional smokers.
Prepared by: California Department of Health Services, Tobacco Control Section, April 2006.

Smoking Prevalence among California Adults by Age Group, 1994-2005



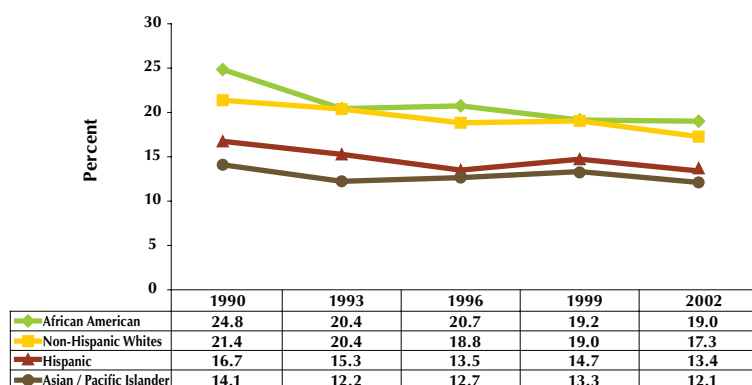
Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) 1984-1992, BRFSS and California Adult Tobacco Survey (CATS) data is combined for 1993-2005. The data is weighted to the 2000 California population. Note definitional change of smoker in 1996 to include more occasional smokers.
Prepared by: California Department of Health Services, Tobacco Control Section, April 2006.

Smoking Prevalence among California Adults by Gender, 1984-2005



Source: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS) 1984-1992, BRFSS and California Adult Tobacco Survey (CATS) data is combined for 1993-2005. The data is weighted to the 2000 California population. Note definitional change of smoker in 1996 to include more occasional smokers.
Prepared by: California Department of Health Services, Tobacco Control Section, April 2006.

Age-adjusted Smoking Prevalence among California Adults by Race/Ethnicity, 1990-2002



Note definitional change of smoker in 1996 to include more occasional smokers.
Source: California Tobacco Survey (CTS), 1990-2002, weighted to 1990 CA population.
Prepared by: California Department of Health Services, Tobacco Control Section, April 2006.

Adult Prevalence by Gender

- Men had higher smoking prevalence rates than women from 1984 to 2005.
- The prevalence of smoking among men and women had similar trends from 1992 to 2005.
- Women have had a greater percentage decline in smoking than men.

Adult Prevalence by Race/Ethnicity

- In 2002, African Americans and Non-Hispanic Whites had significantly higher smoking prevalence than either Hispanics or Asian and Pacific Islanders at 19.0%, 17.3%, 13.4% and 12.1%, respectively.
- All Race/Ethnic groups declined in prevalence from 1999 to 2002.
- The greatest percentage decline in prevalence occurred among Hispanic women from 11.6% in 1990 to 7.4% in 2002.
- The prevalence among Asian and Pacific Islanders and Hispanic women were less than half the rates of men in the same ethnic groups.

Smoking Prevalence among California Adults by Race/Ethnicity and Gender, 1990-2002					
	1990	1993	1996	1999	2002
Male					
African American	27.6	23.8	23.8	25.0	21.4
Non-Hispanic White	22.8	21.4	20.3	20.6	19.4
Hispanic	23.3	21.0	19.2	22.9	19.0
Asian/Pacific Islander	22.2	17.9	17.8	21.6	17.7
Female					
African American	23.9	18.2	20.1	16.5	17.0
Non-Hispanic White	19.8	19.0	17.4	18.2	15.2
Hispanic	11.6	8.9	8.8	9.5	7.4
Asian/Pacific Islander	8.2	5.8	7.5	6.9	6.8

Note definitional change of smoker in 1996 to include more occasional smokers.
Source: California Tobacco Survey (CTS), 1990-2002, weighted to 1990 CA population.
Prepared by: California Department of Health Services, Tobacco Control Section, April 2006.

About the Surveys

The Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (1984-present) and the California Adult Tobacco Survey (1993-present) are random digit-dial telephone surveys of approximately 8,000 adults conducted annually by the Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) Unit of the Cancer Surveillance Section of the CDHS. Data have been weighted to the 2000 California population using gender, four (4) race groups and two (2) age groups.

The California Tobacco Survey (CTS) (1990, 1992-1993, 1996, 1999, and 2002), funded by the Tobacco Control Section of the CDHS, were conducted by the Cancer Prevention and Control program of the University of California, San Diego. The California Tobacco Survey is a large telephone survey that includes a screener survey, an adult extended survey and a youth survey.

ADULT SMOKING PREVALENCE

California Department of Health Services
tcs Tobacco Control Section

California Department of Health Services
Tobacco Control Section
P.O. Box 997413 MS 7206
Sacramento, CA 95899-7413

www.dhs.ca.gov/tobacco

August 2006